



U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
District of Kansas

## NEWS RELEASE

Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS**

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that nine individuals were indicted on Thursday, August 21, 2003, by a federal grand jury in Kansas City, Kansas. Those indicted include:

- ! **Paul H. Robinson**, 51, Kansas City, Kansas, is charged with one count of carjacking by force and violence on August 5, 2003, and one count of kidnaping and holding for ransom another person and transporting that person from Kansas to Missouri on August 5, 2003.

If convicted, Robinson faces a maximum of fifteen years in federal prison, without parole, for carjacking and a maximum of life for kidnaping. The case was investigated by the FBI and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Streepy.

- ! **Larry G. Thomas**, 52, Leavenworth, Kansas, is charged with one count of theft of government funds and one count of unlawfully obtaining a veteran's pension from February 1, 1999, through November 14, 2002.

The indictment alleges that Thomas applied for and in 1999 received a Department of Veterans Affairs' disability pension. The indictment further alleges that from February 1, 1999, through November 14, 2002, Thomas was employed but did not notify the Department of Veterans Affairs and continued to receive approximately \$18,712 in pension benefits to which he was not entitled.

If convicted, Thomas faces a maximum of ten years for theft of government funds and a maximum of one year for unlawfully obtaining a veteran's pension. The case was investigated by the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Inspector General and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Streepy.

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- ! **Raymond James Hickman, Jr., 29**, Riverside, Missouri, is charged with one count of being a felon in possession of a revolver and one count of being a felon in possession of ammunition on August 8, 2003, in Kansas City, Kansas.

If convicted, Hickman faces a maximum of ten years in federal prison without parole. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Streepy.

- ! **Mathew Bauer**, 28, Kansas City, Kansas, currently in custody, is charged with one count of resisting arrest and interfering with a law enforcement officer's official duties by using an automobile to flee from the U.S. Marshals and colliding with an automobile driven by a Deputy U.S. Marshal on May 14, 2003, in Kansas City, Kansas.

If convicted, Bauer faces a maximum of three years in federal prison without parole. The case was investigated by the U.S. Marshals Service and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Leon Patton.

- ! **Raul Nunez-Gomez**, 29, Kansas City, Kansas, **Alberto Valverde**, 35, Kansas City, Kansas, and **Carlos Rivera-Lopez**, 35, Kansas City, Kansas, all currently in custody, are each charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more (1.1 pounds or more) of cocaine between July 1, 2003, and July 30, 2003; one count of possession with the intent to distribute 500 grams or more (1.1 pounds or more) of cocaine on July 29, 2003; one count of possessing a handgun during a drug trafficking crime on July 29, 2003; and one count of possession with the intent to distribute marijuana on July 29, 2003, all in Wyandotte County, Kansas. Nunez-Gomez is also charged with possessing a pistol and an assault rifle during a drug trafficking crime on July 29, 2003. Rivera-Lopez is also charged with distributing marijuana on July 29, 2003.

If convicted, each face a minimum of five years and a maximum of forty years in federal prison, without parole, for conspiracy and possession with the intent to distribute cocaine; a minimum of five years for possessing a handgun during a drug trafficking crime; and a maximum of five years for possessing marijuana. Nunez-Gomez also faces a minimum of ten years and a maximum of life for possessing a pistol and an assault rifle during a drug trafficking crime. Rivera-Lopez also faces a maximum of five years for distributing marijuana. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Sheri McCracken.

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**! Oscar H. Roman-Rodriguez**, 25, and **Monica Y. Guardado**, 26, both of Denver, Colorado, both in custody, are each charged with one count of possession with the intent to distribute approximately 3 kilograms (approximately 6.6 pounds) of cocaine on August 13, 2003, and one count of possession with the intent to distribute approximately 32 kilograms (approximately 70.4 pounds) of marijuana on August 13, 2003, in Ellis County, Kansas.

If convicted, each face a minimum of five years and a maximum of forty years in federal prison, without parole, for possession with the intent to distribute cocaine and a maximum of five years for possession with the intent to distribute marijuana. The case was investigated by the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The Indictments filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.